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**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

replace the paragraph starting at page 3, line 14, with the following replacement

paragraph:

Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating a testing system 10 configured for testing a network switch chip 12, for example an integrated network switch as illustrated in U.S. Patent No. 5,953,335, according to an embodiment of the present invention. In particular, the network switch chip 12 includes network switch ports 14 configured for sending and receiving data frames according to a prescribed network protocol, such as IEEE 802.3-based Media Independent Interface (MII) protocol. The network switch [[14]] 12 also includes an expansion port 16 configured for transferring expansion port frames 40, illustrated in Figure 2, between other switch chips via an expansion bus 36 and the respective switch ports according to a prescribed protocol, for example a burst-based bus protocol. The network switch chip 12 also includes a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) interface 18, enabling a host CPU 20 to configure and control the network switch chip 12 via a PCI bus 22. Hence, a test engineer can configure the network switch chip 12 to output prescribed expansion port frames 40 onto an expansion bus 36, and to read any expansion port frames received by the expansion port 16 from the expansion bus 36.

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